

66R-546-1



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25X1

SATELLITE PROGRAM
Memo to DCI from ADWheelon
FYI.

11 Sept 1963

NRO satellite schedule for remainder of calendar year 1963, compatible with vehicles, payloads, testing, funds and launch pad availability.

COR J	1002	21 Sept
COR J	1003	5 Oct
COR J	1004	20 Oct
ARG	9059A	25 Oct
COR J	1005	31 Oct
LAN	8004	1 Nov
COR MUR	R-7	20 Nov
COR J	1006	25 Nov
LAN	8005	9 Dec

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COR MUR	R-7	25 Dec
COR J	8007	27 Dec

Success of first half of COR J gives high confidence of total operation of this system in the future. (Causes of failure of second half being corrected.)

"The big question is - "Does this schedule provide for at least a minimum required level of effort in satellite recon for the remainder of the year?" The answer can only be a value judgment after considering a great number of factors...I am satisfied that the NRO has now recognized its fundamental error in attempting to phase out the CORONA series before having acquired proven in-being and replacement capabilities. It appears to me that the NRO is now responding much better to the problem and that the present plan is a reasonable level of effort. It should also provide us with a reasonable degree of confidence that we will not be strategically surprised by the lack of intelligence product. Additional effort is of course always desirable, but might result in over-saturation of present facilities and capabilities with resulting degradation of the over-all program.

NRO review(s) completed.

(signed)

Albert D. Wheelon
DD/S&T

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